

## Request for Council Action

Originator Port Authority	Item <b>Riverview Corridor Transit Study Update</b>
Agenda Section	Date 5/27/2015
Description	

The Riverview Corridor is defined by the Mississippi River on the south, Interstate 35E and Ford Parkway on the north, Lowertown and Union Depot on the east, and Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP Airport) and Mall of America (South Loop) on the west. The corridor connects neighborhoods, historic districts, businesses, thriving commercial districts and the capitol city to each other and to the Twin Cities regional transportation network.

Many current and future redevelopment opportunities are occurring in downtown Saint Paul, along the eastern end of West 7th Street, in Highland Park, at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and near the Mall of America (South Loop). These include the Schmidt Brewery neighborhood, Island Station, Victoria Park, Shepard-Davern, the former Ford plant site and Bloomington's South Loop.

Both the eastern end and the western ends of the corridor are connected by light rail to downtown Minneapolis. The only transit option between downtown Saint Paul and the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport or Mall of America (South Loop) is the Metro Transit 54 bus route – one of Metro Transit's busiest routes. Other Metro Transit routes provide partial service within the corridor.

Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority is leading a Pre-Project Development Study to research, analyze and identify opportunities to improve transit within the Riverview Corridor. Council Member Tim Busse is serving on the Policy Advisory Committee for the study, and Schane Rudlang is serving on the Technical Advisory Committee. Transit options for the corridor range from simply improving the existing bus route (#54), to a full conversion of the route to light rail. Where the route would run and the type of transit vehicle are major discussion points of the study. This study is scheduled for completion in late 2015.

Mike Rogers from the Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority will present background and the current status of the study.

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**Requested Action**

No Action Requested.

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**Attachments:**